

Road Committee, Commissioner Dupont begin dust dialogue

Posted Feb. 3, 2009—The North Fork Landowners' Association Road Committee got down to business with newly elected Flathead County Commission Jim Dupont Jan. 27, as he and committee members Margaret Heaphy, Ed Heger and Steve Weber hashed out possible realistic solutions to the current poor condition of the North Fork Road.

Because only 4 percent of land on the North Fork is privately owned, funding for road improvements must come from sources other than property taxes. Discussed were a rural-funding bill introduced by Montana Sen. Verdell Jackson (details of which are sketchy), the possibility of some funds from the Department of Homeland Security to support U.S. Border Patrol operations on the North Fork, and a county vehicle tax.

Adding gravel to the road as a prelude to dust abatement was also discussed. However, Dupont pointed out that hauling gravel up to the North Fork is very expensive, and that the community historically has been opposed to the county placing a rock crusher up here.

For details of the meeting, [click here](#).

The committee encourages suggestions and comments from North Fork landowners. Its e-mail address is northforkroad@live.com. All official communication with the committee will be conducted *only through the official e-mail address*; correspondence via committee members' personal e-mail addresses is *personal*.